

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 7, 2004. Claims 2 to 9 are in the application, with Claim 5 being independent. Claim 1 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 2 to 5, 7, and 8 have been amended. New Claim 9 has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim 7 was objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) for being of improper dependent form. The objection is respectfully traversed. Claim 7 refers to the total content of the elemental halogens, halogen ions and halogen compounds contained in the piezoelectric film whereas Claim 5 refers to the total content of the elemental halogens, halogen ions and halogen compounds contained in the sol-gel composition.

Claims 1 to 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, for failure to enable the invention. The rejection is respectfully traversed, and is submitted to have been obviated by the cancellation of Claim 1, and by the amendments made to Claims 2 to 5 in a manner believed to obviate the grounds of rejection.

Claims 1 to 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over U.S. Patent No. 6,203,608 (Sun). Claims 1 to 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over U.S. Patent No. 6,066,581 (Chivukula). Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Sun in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,247,799 (Sakamaki). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

According to one feature of the invention as recited by Claim 5, the sol-gel composition is prepared by performing a plurality of preparation operations at different times.

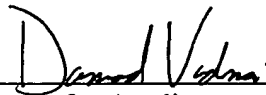
Sun, Chivukula, and Sakamaki, either alone or in combination, are not seen to teach or suggest at least the foregoing feature.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent claim discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Damond E. Vadnais
Registration No. 52,310

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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